

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 06567 151139Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----108572 151141Z /10

O 151130Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8277

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 6567

EXDIS

H

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, MILI, MO

SUBJ: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE VISIT TO EUROPE

REF: STATE 218659 AND RABAT 5103

1. WE VERY MUCH HOPE SECRETARY BROWN WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER A VISIT TO TUNIS WHILE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA. DATES CONTEMPLATED SEEM FINE FROM BOTH EMBASSY AND TUNISIAN POINT OF VIEW.

2. SECRETARY BROWN CAN, OF COURSE, COUNT UPON BEING RECEIVED WARMLY BY TUNISIANS WHO ARE SURE TO BE PLEASED AND FLATTERED BY FIRST U.S. CABINET MEMBER VISIT SINCE 1975. SECRETARY CAN BE ASSURED OF WELCOME BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND PRIME MINISTER AS WELL, IN ALL POSSIBILITY, BY PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA.

3. ONE OF CHIEF ADVANTAGES IN VISIT BY SECRETARY AT THIS JUNCTURE WOULD BE ITS CATALYTIC VALUE IN IMPELLING GOT TO EARLY DECISIONS ON VARIOUS PENDING MAP MATTERS.

4. ONLY CONCEIVABLE PROBLEM WE SEE IN SUGGESTED OCTOBER 14-16 DATES IS PUBLIC HOLIDAY SATURDAY, OCT. 15 (COMMEMORATING 1961

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 06567 151139Z

BIZERTE MASSACRE) WHICH COULD TAKE SOME TOP OFFICIALS OUT OF CIRCULATION FOR THAT MORNING.

5. I EXPECT TO SEE DEFENSE MINISTER EARLY NEXT WEEK AND WOULD BE MORE THAN PLEASED TO START PROCESS OF GETTING TUNISIAN CONCURRENCE IN PROJECTED DATES. ADVISE.  
MULCAHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009